

Central NH Regional Planning Commission

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Transportation Advisory Committee

October 7, 2016

Meeting Notes

Bow Municipal Building, Bow, 10 Grandview Road, Bow

9:00 A.M.

Attendees	
Barbara Annis, Town of Warner	Rob Mack, City of Concord
Ted Mitchell, Town of Pittsfield	Christine Trovato, Town of Henniker
Harry Wright, Town of Bradford	

Commission Staff: Steve Henninger, Jennifer Mock, Michael Tardiff, Dean Williams

The meeting began at 9:12 A.M, called to order by Chair, Barbara Annis.

Review and Approve Minutes of the May 6, 2016 TAC Meeting

Due to the lack of quorum minutes of the May 6, 2016 TAC meeting could not be approved.

Transportation Alternatives Program Regional Ranking

Five applications throughout the Central NH region were submitted for Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) projects. The applications need to be ranked to prioritize the projects in the region. An application in Bradford was submitted for sidewalk improvements along West Main Street, in Concord a trails project connecting Manchester Street to Loudon Road was proposed, extending Western Avenue sidewalks in Henniker, in Hillsborough sidewalks connecting downtown to the Shaw’s/Sylvania area and lastly in Pembroke improved sidewalks and a proposed recreational path near the Three Rivers School. As of October 7th, eleven individuals had complete the scoring – five staff members and six CNHRPC TAC members. Dean William encouraged all TAC members present to complete the scoring if they hadn’t already. The current ranking based upon the scoring placed Concord in first, Bradford in second, Pembroke in third, Hillsborough in fourth and Henniker in last.

Dean reviewed the DOT weight criteria and discussed changes to this TAP rounds weighting compared to previous TAP rounds. He added that it is NHDOT’s goal to fund ten projects statewide. Michael Tardiff noted how well the applications were completed and that a number of these projects have been around for a while and were not new projects. He added that they were solid projects and fit in with other projects and studies including previous Safe Routes to School Projects. Since there was low attendance, official scoring of the

applications for submittal to NHDOT would take place at the November TAC meeting to allow additional TAC members to complete the scoring over the next month.

CNHRPC Unified Planning Work Program Performance Measures

Steve Henninger has continued work on developing CNHRPC's performance measures as part of the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). This includes measuring the value of the planning process and how it impacts items such as traffic counts, road conditions, bridge conditions, TAC meetings held, etc. Performance measures are required by the FHWA at the state level. Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO) are also required to complete these measures. Although CNHRPC is not required at this time, we plan to complete tracking anyways as a means of best practices, in order for the State to prove there is value in the planning process at the regional level.

Community Technical Assistance Program (CTAP) and CommuteSmart NH

Michael Tardiff provided an update on CTAP and CommuteSmart NH since they are tied together. The CTAP, and existing program has been providing funding for the Salem to Manchester 1-93 project in order to lessen the environmental impacts. In the CNHRPC region, there are only a few communities in which this funding would be eligible to be spent because they need to be within the buffer of the 1-93 corridor. In the last few months, funding has been opened up for proposals for certain types of projects with a minimum project amount of \$125,000 federal funding with a 20% local match such as transit orientated design projects and additional rideshare. CNHRPC has taken the lead on statewide rideshare and CommuteSmart NH, in hopes to encourage more individuals to use the NH Rideshare software and alternative transportation options. CNHRPC will be taking the lead on submitting this proposal which will include funding for more of a statewide coordination for alternative transportation options in hopes to get more regional planning commissions involved, building the CommuteSmart NH program and website updates, and linking in with MassRides. This proposal will be submitted to NHDOT in October and CNHRPC will hopefully hear back in December. If the proposal is accepted staff would begin work next summer.

Special Projects

- Concord Pedestrian Master Plan

Michael Tardiff indicated that Craig continues to work on the Concord Pedestrian Master Plan in Concord as part of a Special Project within our UPWP program.

- Bow RSMS & Culvert Inventory Project Request

Dean Williams mentioned that the Bow RSMS pilot project continues and will hopefully come to a close this fall. Staff looks forward to beginning RSMS work in some of our local communities with Deering and Dunbarton already expressing an interest.

- Concord – Franklin Transit Feasibility Study

Michael Tardiff mentioned that they Request for Proposal is ready to go and the group will be gearing up this fall to continue work on the feasibility study.

- **Special Projects Request**

A special projects request was developed by Craig Tufts in hopes to investigate with the potential for creating a continuous trail system tying Concord to the Lake Sunapee Rail Trail and trails from Contoocook to Deering. This project would also help communities advance local trail projects with an eye towards it becoming part of a longer multi-town trail. The special project request was unable to be voted on due to the lack of quorum however will be brought back at the November meeting. Michael Tardiff also mentioned to members present that if there was a transportation related project within communities and an idea has been developed there is room within the CNHRPC UPWP program for an additional special project this year.

Regional Updates/Other Business

- **Regional Traffic Counting Program**

Dean Williams noted that 120 traffic count have been completed with one radar count to still be completed in Pembroke. This year NHDOT changed the format in the way that traffic counts were submitted. As of October 7th, only 17 counts had been approved by NHDOT, due to the formatting change and delay in processing. The traffic count data still needs to be sent out to all towns and updated on the CNHRPC website which will be completed by the end of the year.

- **Mid State Regional Coordinating Council**

Dean Williams mentioned that the State Coordinating Council has held a number of public hearings and are currently looking at ways to better coordinate transit throughout the state and provide rides for senior citizens and those with disabilities. Steve Henninger asked about the Taxi Voucher Program and how it was functioning. Dean noted that there had been no issues to report however only four rides had been provided so far and were in the month of August.

- **Other Business**

Barbara Annis, from Warner mentioned that installation had begun on the new roundabout near Market Basket in Warner and vehicles are following the new traffic pattern in time for the Fall Foliage Festival. Discussion continued regarding the Hopkinton/Henniker intersection at 202/9 and it was agreed that the intersection needs to be addressed.

Next Meeting Date

The next TAC meeting was scheduled for November 4, 2016 at 9:00 A.M., at the Bow Town Hall.

Meeting Adjournment

The Meeting was adjourned at 10:13 A.M.